

STATEFUL BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS PROTOCOL EXCHANGE

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A method of communicating between two business entities, each of the business
entities utilizing a different communication protocol, wherein a business conversation is
established between the entities, comprises the steps of: providing a business-to-business
(B2B) protocol exchange for facilitating communications between the business entities,
the B2B protocol exchange being operatively connected to the business entities. The
method further includes the step of receiving, at the B2B protocol exchange, a message
10 from one of the business entities in a first communication protocol, translating the
received message in the first communication protocol into a translated message in a
second protocol used by another of the business entities and sending the translated
message to the other business entity. In this manner, the present invention provides a
framework for facilitating communication between two business entities implemented
15 using different communication protocols.

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